

Memphis Animal Services Advisory Board Meeting
June 15, 2010

Meeting called to order: 10:15 am

Present:

Allen Iskiwitz
Carol Katz
Cindy Sanders
Jackie Johns
Frank James
Matthew Pepper

Absent (excused):

Michelle Buckalew

Allen Iskiwitz: Discussion of ACO duties in regard to stray problem in city. concerns for citizen safety. Concerns regarding number of employees on OJI and effect on scheduling. Concerns over continued rudeness of some employees.

Matt Pepper: Many people on OJI. Calls are prioritized. MAS is in process of hiring new employees and training current staff. Working on evaluation policy. Testing animals for medical and temperament for possible transfer to adoption area.

Jackie Johns: Concern regarding ACOs returning to MAS hours before end of shift. Concern regarding repeated visits by ACOs to calls with no action taken. Case after case with extensive histories of no action by shelter. Still seeing only two officers in court on cruelty/proper court assignment. Suggestion to place signs at MAS to advise citizens to not place hands in kennels for safety and disease issues.

Matt Pepper: Policy being developed to assign cases to proper court. Shelter will not be paperless, it creates problems. Will address signs.

Carol Katz: Status of prioritizing calls. Praise for policy regarding kennel cleaning.

Cindy Sanders: Concern regarding euthanasia done on animals that have intent to adopt clearly written on kennel cards. Paperwork for two cases presented. Concern over animals leaving MAS intact, against city law. Concern over clerks not dispatching on evening shift. Concern regarding cleanliness of stray area. Concern regarding officers doing less than 5 calls per shift.

Matt Pepper: Policy to allow certified 501c rescues to adopt animals with medical/behavioral issues. Currently some animals leave shelter intact but not for medical reasons. Follow up will be done to bring in animals for sterilization procedure. Currently understaffed. Working with group to provide ER housing.

Carol Katz: Rotating off the Board. Have seen changes. Happy with direction of MAS.

Floor opened to public:

Concern that shelter is not contacting breed specific rescues when animals arrive at shelter.

Concern there is no emergency policy for the temporary housing of animals in case of disaster.

Meeting dismissed: 12:25pm